



CITY OF TUCSON

NEWS RELEASE

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MAYOR AND COUNCIL REVISE GRAY WATER REQUIREMENTS

On July 9, 2013, the City of Tucson Mayor and Council approved a revision to gray water requirements in the International Residential Code (IRC). In 2008, the City had adopted code language requiring that new one- and two-family dwelling units be pre-plumbed for future gray water use. Those requirements proved costly and onerous.

The revision to the IRC takes a graduated approach to the pre-plumbing of gray water fixtures based on the amount of useable landscape area on a site. The new Code language and supporting materials was developed through several stakeholder meetings with City Planning & Development Services staff, homebuilders, water conservation advocates and the City's Consolidated Building Code Committee.

"It was clear that the prior requirements were not working and only added costs to the construction of new homes, with little or no benefit," said Ernie Duarte, director of Planning and Development Services. "The amendment to the code is more practical and will make it easier and less costly for homeowners to activate the gray water piping in their new homes."

More information is available at www.tucsonaz.gov/planning/HotTopics or by calling Planning and Development Services at (520) 791-5550.

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